For more information contact:

Rick Kearney, ITFlorida Chair   Jim Burke, Edelman
800-748-1120   (321) 722-9788
office@itflorida.com   jim.burke@edelman.com

<u>**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**</u>

Nine Florida Technology Organizations Honored For Leadership And Excellence At ITFlorida Awards Gala

ORLANDO, FL, July 25, 2003 – Nine information technology organizations from throughout Florida were honored Thursday night for demonstrating leadership and excellence during the past year at ITFlorida's first annual Gala and Technology Forum in Orlando.

The organizations – including businesses, education and government entities -- were selected from about 100 that applied or were nominated for the prestigious awards. The nominations were reviewed by a panel of judges consisting of Florida information technology leaders.

The organizations were honored in ten categories, including; excellence in IT leadership from northeast, northwest, central or south Florida; small business of the year; high growth company of the year; excellence in education technology; excellence in IT worker training; government technology leadership - public sector; and government technology leadership - private sector.

"This past year has been a true test for every information technology company. We are excited to be able to reward these companies for demonstrating leadership and excellence, especially in the midst of this difficult economy," said Rick Kearney, Chair of ITFlorida. "Information technology plays a vital role in many aspects of Florida. These awards are designed to honor the winners and recognize the importance of the overall industry to our state and its future."

The 2003 ITFlorida awards were presented to:
- Excellence in IT Leadership - Central Florida; JPMorgan Chase
- Excellence in IT Leadership - Northeast Florida; City of Jacksonville JAXMAN

-more-

2-

- Excellence in IT Leadership - Northwest Florida; The Institute for Human and Machine Cognition
- Excellence in IT Leadership - South Florida; Terremark Worldwide's NAP of the Americas
- Small Business of the Year; Productivity Apex, Inc. (PAI)
- High Growth Company of the Year; Terremark Worldwide's NAP of the Americas
- Excellence in Education Technology; Veridian Information Solutions
- Excellence in IT Worker Training; Miami Dade Community College
- Government Technology Leadership - Public Sector; Miami-Dade County
- Government Technology Leadership - Private Sector; Intellorg, Inc

The award winners were honored during a dinner and reception ceremony, which included a keynote presentation from Shane Robison, executive vice president and chief strategy and technology officer for Hewlett-Packard.   The forum continues Friday, and includes a luncheon presentation by Florida Governor Jeb Bush, along with a series of panel discussions dealing with a variety of information technology issues.

More information about the awards and the ITFlorida Gala and Technology Forum is available online at ITFlorida's Web site at www.itflorida.com.

About ITFlorida
ITFlorida is an umbrella, not-for-profit, membership organization that represents Florida's diverse information technology community on a statewide basis. ITFlorida was formed in October 2001 after the dissolution of the Information Service Development Technology Task Force (IT Task Force), which focused on developing state policies to enable Florida to compete in the information age. ITFlorida built on the momentum of the IT Task Force and fills the need for a single statewide advocacy organization to represent Florida's high technology sectors. It is organized to provide its members with access to lawmakers, businesses, capital, and domestic and international technology leaders. More information is available at www.itflorida.com.

#   #   #